High performance dual-electrolyte based magnesium-iodine batteries that can harmlessly resorb in the environment or in the body

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High voltage output (> 1.8 V) and large cell capacity (~ 2.45 mAh) with small cell size (~ 0.5 cm length * 0.5 cm width * 0.19 cm height) are achieved. The calculations are listed below.

Areal capacity
$$(mAh \ cm^{-2}) = \frac{Capacity}{Area} = \frac{2.45}{0.5 * 0.5} = 9.8$$

Areal energy
$$(mWh \ cm^{-2}) = \frac{Capacity * Voltage}{Area} = \frac{2.45 * 1.8}{0.5 * 0.5} = 17.7$$

Volumetric energy
$$(mWh \ cm^{-3}) = \frac{Capacity * Voltage}{Volume} = \frac{2.45 * 1.8}{0.5 * 0.5 * 0.19} = 93$$

Areal power
$$(mW \ cm^{-2}) = \frac{Current * Voltage}{Area} = \frac{0.4 * 1.8}{0.5 * 0.5} = 0.72$$

Volumetric power
$$(mW \ cm^{-3}) = \frac{Current * Voltage}{Volume} = \frac{0.4 * 1.8}{0.5 * 0.5 * 0.19} = 3.8$$



Supplementary Figure 1. Optimization of the polyanhydride encapsulation structure. Results correspond to configurations with different numbers and sizes of holes for *(green)* dual-electrolyte and *(grey)* fully encapsulated cell architectures. In the latter, both the cathode and anode are encapsulated. The areal capacity of each group corresponds to the percentage of the value obtained with the optimized cell configuration. n=3 cells per group.



Supplementary Figure 2. Effect of incubation time in PBS on areal capacity for cells with 100 μ m and 200 μ m thick Mg anodes and 300 μ m Ag/AgCl cathodes. Cells are immersed in chicken breast and PBS (pH 7.4) at 37 °C for 0, 1, 2, 3, and 7 days. n=3 cells per day. Setting: 4 mA cm⁻².



Supplementary Figure 3. Characteristics of the battery. a, Optical image of a cell vertically stacked. b, Fabrication schematic of the Mg/I_2 cell.



Supplementary Figure 4. a, Effect of cell architecture on performance. Cross-sectional schematic illustration of cells assembled with *(left)* dual-electrolyte and a *(Right)* conventional configuration. The dual-electrolyte cell architecture features an encapsulated iodine cathode surrounded by ionic liquid. The conventional version does not feature encapsulation or ionic liquid. **b**, LPKF cutting design of electrode current collector. **c**, Optical image of a cell with conductive wires. **d**, Effect of ionic liquid in a dual-electrolyte assembly observed through the cumulative release of a dye over time. The dye represents the iodine cathode. *(Left)* Cross-sectional schematic illustration of dye and ionic liquid and *(right)* only dye, without ionic liquid. **e**, Cumulative release of a dye over time. **f**, Plots of discharge behaviors of the Mg/I₂ cell after immersion in PBS (pH 7.4) at 37 °C. **g**, Linear sweep voltammetry (LSV) curves for the eco/bioresorbable cell in PBS. n=3 cells.



Supplementary Figure 5. Radar plot comparison of performance characteristics of the battery technology reported here and other non-bioresorbable, implantable cells (Mg-Cu¹, Zn-Cu¹, AZ31-Air (Au-SF)², Na(AC)-MnO₂³, Na(NatMel)-MnO₂⁴, Na(Pyroprotein carbon)-NFP⁵).



Supplementary Figure 6. Surgical preparations for *in vivo* **studies of the capacities of implanted cells.** Surgical procedure for implanting a cell inside a small animal (rat) model. **a**, Rat shaved at the target site and cleaned with iodine. **b**, Location for implantation is identified and the cell, wires, and headcap are approximately positioned. A tunnel along the fascial tissue from the head to the back forms a route for wires that tunnel from head to back. c, Sutures are applied along the head and back to finish the procedure. **d**, Image of rat post-surgical procedure.



Supplementary Figure 7. 5 grade scoring system after 1 week of implantation. Severity Score: 0 = finding not observed, 1 = minimal, 2 = mild, 3 = moderate, 4 = marked, 5 = severe. Distribution modifier: D = diffuse, F = focal, M = multifocal. P = non-gradable finding is present, NP = tissue/slide not present, NA = not available. Microscopic findings identified in control animals are common spontaneous observations that occur in toxicologic pathology studies.



Supplementary Figure 8. 5 grade scoring system after 4 weeks of implantation. Severity Score: 0 = finding not observed, 1 = minimal, 2 = mild, 3 = moderate, 4 = marked, 5 = severe. Distribution modifier: D = diffuse, F = focal, M = multifocal. P = non-gradable finding is present, NP = tissue/slide not present. Microscopic findings identified in control animals are common spontaneous observations that occur in toxicologic pathology studies.



Supplementary Figure 9. Organ Weights at 1- and 4-week timepoints. Statistical analyses indicate no significant difference between cathodes, eco/bioresorbable cells, and controls at both 1- and 4-week timepoints (P = 0.9998 at 1-week and P = 0.9705 at 4-weeks). n=3 independent animals per group.



Supplementary Figure 10. No evidence of systemic toxicity was observed in sections of mouse brain, heart, lung, spleen or kidney (left to right) from any treated groups. HE, 400x.



Supplementary Figure 11. Utilization of cells for thermal therapy, temperature measurements and cardiac pacing. a, Overview of applications. b, Demonstration of two eco/bioresorbable cells in series powering a Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) system that performs temperature measurements and communicates relevant information to a smartphone. (*Left*) Circuit of the system. (*Center*) Photograph of the integrated temperature sensor. (*Right*) Real-time temperature measurements on the forehead of a human subject. c, Demonstration of a single eco/bioresorbable cell powering a microcontroller. (*Left*) Circuit of the system. (*Right*) Photograph of LED lighting up, illustrating the system successfully powers on.



Supplementary Figure 12. Results of benchtop pacing experiments on a piece of chicken meat (top) and in PBS (bottom).



Supplementary Figure 13. Images of the surgical procedure for implanting the bioresorbable Mo electrodes. E1, E2: electrode 1 and electrode 2. The following occurs after the rodent is anesthetized and intubated. a, Skin on rodent is removed with clippers. Incision occurs with rodent under a microscope. Once ready, the chest retractor is inserted to open the space to the heart. b, Pericardial sac is cautiously moved with forceps, to enable the transient molybdenum electrodes to gently contact the left ventricle. Pacing electrodes are secured in place with sutures.



Supplementary Figure 14. Concept and circuits utilized in ex vivo demonstrations of a cell powered cardiac pacemaker on mouse hearts using a microcontroller approach. a, Microcontroller is programmed by a computer to pace at specified parameters of 2 ms on, 0.1 s off. b, Electrical stimulation set at 2 ms on, 0.1 s off.



Supplementary Figure 15. 3-axis accelerometer data captured by a system on a chip (SoC) powered by the eco/bioresorbable battery implanted in ground water and soil. Two test regions reflect the intentional perturbations generated near the SoC, demonstrating the potential for capturing vibrations in real time.



Supplementary Figure 16. Photographs of the Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) system on a chip (SoC) connected to the eco/bioresorbable battery immersed in soil and ground water, delivering real-time measurements wirelessly to the graphical user interface (GUI).



Supplementary Figure 17. Schematic illustration of the process for fabricating the cathodes (top to bottom). a, A 3D mold is designed and printed. b, Mo foil is placed directly within the pocket of the mold. c, A 3D printed spatula is placed within the pocket of the mold to secure the Mo foil in place. d, The iodine composite is added thereafter to deliver cathode replications.



Supplementary Figure 18. Schematic illustration for the fabrication of PA films and encapsulation.

	Areal Capacity (mAh cm ⁻²)	Voltage (V)	Areal energy (mWh cm ⁻²)	Areal power (mW cm ⁻²)	Volumetric energy (mWh cm ⁻³)	Volumetric power (mW cm ⁻³)
This work	9.81	1.80	17.67	0.72	92.98	3.79
Mg-MoO ₃ ⁶	1.80	1.60	2.88	0.04	7.20	0.10
Mg-FeMn ⁷	0.35	0.60	0.21	0.03	3.00	0.43
Mg-Mo (1) ⁶	5.60	0.60	3.36	0.02	8.40	0.04
Mg-Mo (2) ⁸	2.40	0.50	1.44	0.05	5.76	0.20
Mg-Fe (1) ⁹ (PCL, PBS)	10.93	0.70	7.65	0.08	76.49	0.77
Mg-Fe (2) ⁹ (PCL, NaCl)	9.93	0.40	3.97	0.04	39.74	0.44
Mg-Fe (3) ⁹ (PCL, MgCl ₂)	5.41	0.50	2.70	0.06	27.04	0.55
Mg-Fe (4) ⁸	2.40	0.80	1.92	0.08	7.68	0.32
Mg-W ⁸	2.40	0.70	1.68	0.07	6.72	0.28

Supplementary Table 1. Comparison with reported eco/bioresorbable cells.

	Voltage (V)	Areal energy (mWh cm ⁻²)	Areal power (mW cm ⁻²)	Volumetric energy (mWh cm ⁻³)	Volumetric power (mW cm ⁻³)
This work	1.80	17.67	0.72	92.98	3.79
Zn-Cu ¹	0.18	38.64	0.12	89.86	0.27
Mg-Cu ¹	0.23	9.36	0.65	21.77	1.51
AZ31-Air (Au-SF) ²	0.86	0.0013	0.02	0.08	1.01
$Na(AC)-MnO_2^{3}$	0.31	0.01	0.004	0.12	0.04
Na(Pyroprotein carbon)-NFP ⁵	2.50	0.003	0.38	0.03	4.17
Na(NatMel)-MnO ₂ ⁴	0.43	0.08	0.0000043	0.76	0.000043

Supplementary Table 2. Comparison with reported non-bioresorbable, implantable cells.

	Volumetric capacity (mAh cm ⁻³)	Voltage (V)	Volumetric energy (mWh cm ⁻³)	Specific capacity (mAh g ⁻¹)	Specific energy (mWh g ⁻¹)
This work	51.65	1.80	92.98	52.49	94.49
Alkaline	132.10	1.50	198.15	35.71	53.57
Zn-Ag ₂ O	160.21	1.55	248.33	36.67	56.83
Zinc carbon	23.32	1.50	34.99	20.00	30.00

Supplementary Table 3. Comparison with commercial, non-degradable cells and batteries.

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